

What is claimed is:

[Claim 1] 1. A method for sampling an image signal, comprising:

dividing a plurality of image sensor cells into a plurality of image cell groups, each of the image cell groups comprising a portion of the said image sensor cells;

sequentially performing an image sampling process on the image sensor cells in each of the image cell groups.

[Claim 2] 2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the image sampling process performed on the image cell groups is determined by an image processing specification thereafter.

[Claim 3] 3. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a number of the image sensor cells in each of the image cell groups is the same.

[Claim 4] 4. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a number of the image sensor cells in each of the image cell groups is different from each other.

[Claim 5] 5. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein all of the image sensor cells are arranged in an array order, called image cell array.

[Claim 6] 6. The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the image sensor cells in the image cell array are arranged in a plurality of rows, and the image cell groups perform the image sampling process row-by-row sequentially.

[Claim 7] 7. The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the image sensor cells in the image cell array are arranged in a plurality of columns, and the image cell groups perform the image sampling process column-by-column sequentially.

[Claim 8] 8. The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the image sensor cells in each of the image cell groups in the image cell array perform the image sampling process in a zigzag manner sequentially.

[Claim 9] 9. The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the image sensor cells in each of the image cell groups are arranged in a plurality of rows in a radial order in the image cell array.

[Claim 10] 10. A apparatus for sensing an image, the apparatus comprising a plurality of image sensor cells being divided and grouped into a plurality of image cell groups, each of the image cell groups comprising a portion of said image sensor cells, wherein an image sampling process is performed on all of the image cell groups as sampling units and image signals are sampled and generated therefrom.

[Claim 11] 11. The apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein the image sampling process performed on the image cell groups is determined by an image processing specification thereafter.

[Claim 12] 12. The apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein a number of the image sensor cells in each of the image cell groups is the same.

[Claim 13] 13. The apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein a number of the image sensor cells in each of the image cell groups is different from each other.

[Claim 14] 14. The apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein all of the image sensor cells are arranged in an array order, called image cell array.

[Claim 15] 15. The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein the image sensor cells in the image cell array are arranged in a plurality of rows, and the image cell groups perform the image sampling process row-by-row sequentially.

[Claim 16] 16. The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein the image sensor cells in the image cell array are arranged in a plurality of columns, and the image cell groups perform the image sampling process column-by- column sequentially.

[Claim 17] 17. The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein the image sensor cells in each of the image cell groups in the image cell array perform the image sampling process in a zigzag manner sequentially.

[Claim 18] 18. The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein the image sensor cells in each of the image cell groups are arranged in a plurality of rows in a radial order in the image cell array.

[Claim 19] 19. The apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein each of the image sensor cells comprising a plurality of color sensor units, the color sensor units being used to sense red, green and blue lights, respectively.

[Claim 20] 20. The apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein each of the image sensor cells comprises a color sensor unit, the color sensor unit being used to sense one of the red, green and blue lights, respectively.